Treaty on Mahakali River

3795. DR. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Mahakali Integrated Treaty signed between India and Nepal has been welcomed by both the countries;

(b) if so, whether the Nepal Parliament has ratified the treaty;

(c) to what extent the relations between India and Nepal have been strengthened after visit of the Prime Minister of Nepal to India; and

(d) whether all outstanding issues between the two countries have been removed?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) to (d) (i) The Treaty on the Integrated Development of the Mahakali River was concluded during the visit of the Nepalese Prime Minister to India in February 1996. India and Nepal have welcomed the signing of the Treaty which would bring significant benefits to both the countries. The Treaty is expected to be tabled during the current session of the Nepalese Parliament for ratification.

(ii) India and Nepal enjoy friendly relations which were further strengthened by the visit of the Nepalese Prime Minister. All round progress in accelerating the pace of bilateral ties in various spheres has been made in the months following the visit. Commerce Secretary visited Kathmandu in July 1996 when it was agreed to remove the 50% material and labour content requirement for duty free imports of products of Nepalese manufacture into India.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Report (1995-96) of the National Human Rights Commission, New Delhi and Related Papers

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): Sir, I lay on the Table a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-secton (2) of section 20 of the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993:—

(i) Annual Report of the National Human Rights Commission, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96.

(ii) Memorandum of Action Taken on the Annual Report of National Human Rights Commission for the year 1995-96. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 480/96]

I. Report and Accounts (1994-95) of the Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts, New Delhi and related papers.

II. Report and Accounts (1994-95) of the Carpet-Export Promotion Council, Ghaziabad (U.P.) and related pepers.

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): Sir, I lay on the Table a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

I. (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts, New Delhi for the year 1994-95 together with the Auditors' Report on the Accounts.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Council.

II. (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Carpet Export Promotion Council, Ghaziabad, (U.P.) for the year 1994-95 together with the Auditors' Report on the Accounts.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Council. [Placed in Library for (i) and (ii) *see* No. L.T. 601/96]

SHRI R.L. JALAPPA: Sir, I seek your permission to lay the papers mentioned against the name of Shri Srikanta Kumar Jena on the Table of the House ...*(interruptions)*....

(The Deputy Chairman in the Chair)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What permission? ...*(interruptions)*.... काहे की परमिशन चाहिए। अभी एक काम थोड़ा सा है। क्या परमिशन चाहिए।

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY (Pondicherry): Madam, the Parliamentary Affairs Minister substituted another Minister to lay the papers on the Table of the House. Both the Parliamentary Affairs Ministers are not here

and poor Jalappa, the Minister for Textiles is laying ...*(interruptions)*....

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Parliamentary Affairs Minister could be busy in the Lok Sabha. Let us have some compassion ...*(interruptions)*....

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: If one Minister is not there, then it is all right. Even the other hon. Minister is not here.

SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES (Goa): Was the permission of the Chair taken to remain absent? This is my question...*(interruptions)*....

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: May be the Minister is coming now. Message from the Lok Sabha.

SECRETARY GENERAL: Madam ...*(interruptions)*....

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is on my paper. When the Ministers have got some work in the other House...*(interruptions)*.... I am just telling you ...*(interruptions)*....

आप बैठिए तो समझाऊं। आप हमेशा "नो" से शुरू करते हैं।

which is a very negative attitude. You first listen to what I am saying ...*(interruptions)*.... These papers are in the name of Shri Beni Prasad Verma. Shri Beni Prasad Verma thought he would be busy, so he requested to Chairman ...*(interruptions)*.... Just one second ...*(interruptions)*....

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA (Bihar): Madam, he is very much here ...*(interruptions)*....

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: At that time he thought, perhaps, he may not be able to come here and asked Mr. Srikanta Kumar Jena to do it. Now, Mr. Verma is here. Okay, he can lay his papers. आप हैं। तो रखिए पेपर।

Profit and Loss Account and Balance Sheet (1994-95) of the Department of Telecommunications

संचार मंत्री (श्री बेनी प्रसाद वर्मा): महोदया, मैं 1994-95 के वर्ष के लिए दूरसंचार विभाग के लाभ-हानि खाते और तुलन-पत्र (प्रोद्भूत आधार पर) की एक प्रति (अंग्रेजी तथा हिन्दी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूं। पुस्तकालय में रखी गई। देखिए संख्या एल. टी. 513/96:

MESSAGE FROM THE LOK SABHA

The Representation of the People (Second Amendment) Bill, 1996

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Madam, I have to report to the House the following message received from the Lok Sabha, signed by the Secretary-General of the Lok Sabha:

> In accordance with the provisions of rule 96 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to enclose the Representation of the People (Second Amendment) Bill, 1996, as passed by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 10th September, 1996.

Madam, I lay a copy of the Bill on the Table of the House.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have to make some announcements. *(Interruptions)*

मैं आपकी सब बातें सुनूंगी, पहले मेरी...(व्यवधान) नहीं, पहले बैठिए। ऐसे नहीं करिए हाउस में अभी काम है। पहले मुझे एनाउंसमेंट तो कर लेने दीजिए। मैम्बर्स की छुट्टियों का मामला है। ...(व्यवधान)

We have to give leave of absence.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have to inform Members that a letter has been received from Shri Ramakrishna Hedge, stating that owing to indisposition, he is unable to attend the current Session of the Rajya Sabha. He has, therefore, requested for grant of leave of absence accordingly.

Does he have the permission ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL (Rajasthan): Yes; yes. *(Interruptions)*

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Does he have ...*(Interruptions)*

Let me finish this, at least. What has happened to this House? Members do not have courtesy. Let me finish. If you do not want me to read it out, I won't read it out. Are you in such a hurry to say "yes"? I do not know what has happened to us. *(Interruptions)* Ministers, Members and even to the Chair. There is a